

REMARKS

By the present amendment, Applicant has amended Claims 15 and 19. Claims 16 and 18 have been cancelled. Claims 1-15, 17, 19 and 20 remain pending in the present application. Claims 1, 8, 15 and 19 are independent claims. A check in the amount of \$100 is submitted herewith to cover the added independent claim

In the recent Office Action, the Examiner objected to the specification as containing informality on page 11. By this amendment, the paragraph of the specification beginning at line 13 of page 11 has been replaced, thereby correcting the above-noted informality.

In the recent Office Action the Examiner rejected Claim 15 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tucker (US 6,059,298). Claim 17 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tucker (US 6,059,298) in view of Happ (US 2,487,706). Claim 18 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tucker (US 6,059,298) in view of Morris (US 4,986,558). And, Claim 20 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tucker (US 6,059,298) in view of Nicholson (US 5,330,211) and Chen (US 5,494,305). The Examiner allowed Claims 1-14 and indicated that Claims 16 and 19 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and of any intervening claims.

The indication by the Examiner of allowable subject matter and that Claims 1-14 are allowed over the prior art of record is noted with appreciation. In this regard, Applicant has amended independent Claim 15 to incorporate the allowable subject matter of Claim 16.

Application No.: 10/655,203
Art Unit: 3618

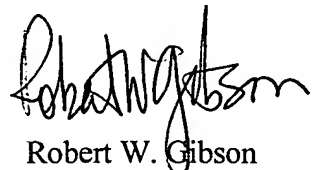
Attorney Docket No.: 22833.00
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Allowable Claim 19 has been rewritten in independent form to include all of the limitations of independent Claim 15 and intervening Claim 18. Applicant respectfully submits that for at least these reasons, amended independent Claims 15 and 19, and corresponding dependent Claims 17 and 20 are allowable over the prior art applied of record.

The claims in this application have been revised to more particularly define Applicant's unique construction in view of the prior art of record. Reconsideration of the claims in light of the amendments and for the above-noted reasons is respectfully requested.

For the foregoing reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that the present application is in condition for allowance. If such is not the case, the Examiner is requested to kindly contact the undersigned in an effort to satisfactorily conclude the prosecution of this application.

Respectfully submitted,



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RWG:dht

Attachment: Check